

# Metropolitan Council Proposed Equity Policy

October 24, 2018

Metropolitan Council



# Equity Policy Overview

Today's Proposed Action: That the Metropolitan Council adopts the Equity Policy

# Equity Policy

To the extent authorized or permitted by law, the Metropolitan Council will conduct its own operations and use its assets and authorities to equitably serve the needs of the metropolitan area<sup>1</sup>.

To help achieve Equity, the Council will:

- Evaluate its operations, planning, and investments through an Equity Lens
- Identify and mitigate disproportionately adverse effects of the Council's work
- Engage a full cross-section of community members in decision-making
- Provide just and fair access to opportunities and services that support regional diversity
- Coordinate the network of infrastructure development to benefit all residents in the metropolitan area

<sup>1</sup> Minn. Stat. 473.121, Subd. 2. Currently defined as “seven-county area”; sourced from Thrive MSP 2040

# Purpose & Background

This policy supports the Council's statutory charge to guide the orderly and economical development of the metropolitan area, by:

- Advancing the Council's long-range plans
- Instilling Equity in the Council's own operations and leading by example in the region
- Advancing the mission of the Council's Public Engagement Plan ...
- Adhering to and promoting the equity-related federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and statutes
- Working collaboratively with the Council's Equity Advisory Committee
- Assessing the outcomes of policies, plans and investments to eliminate disparities and achieve just and fair access to opportunities for everyone in the region
- Working with federal, state, and regional partners and local governments to advance Equity in the metropolitan area



# Implementation & Accountability

- Council Divisions: use an Equity Lens to evaluate operations, planning and investments
- Office of Equal Opportunity: coordinates Council-wide equity initiatives, collaborates with divisions, and conducts an annual review
- Metropolitan Council: establishes an Equity Framework



**METROPOLITAN**  
C O U N C I L